



How to fix a rattling window, E46 M3

If your windows are rattling, follow this guide to fix them.

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INTRODUCTION

Does your door sound noisy and rattly when closing, like this? Here's how to fix it!



TOOLS:

- [Metal Spudger](#) (1)
 - [Spudger Retail 3 Pack](#) (1)
 - [Jimmy](#) (1)
 - [T20 Torx Screwdriver](#) (1)
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Step 1 — Identify the screws



- The door card is held securely in place with 5 screws.

⚠ Keep in mind the door card has up to 3 wire bundles attached to it. Be careful when removing it! Be prepared to support it while dealing with the wires.

Step 2 — Remove screw covers



- Using a spudger, work off the cap of the first screw. The cap is tight; you may need a jimmy or metal spudger.
- Using the flat end of a spudger, remove the airbag emblem. The emblem has clips on the top and bottom -- work carefully.

Step 3 — Remove bolts



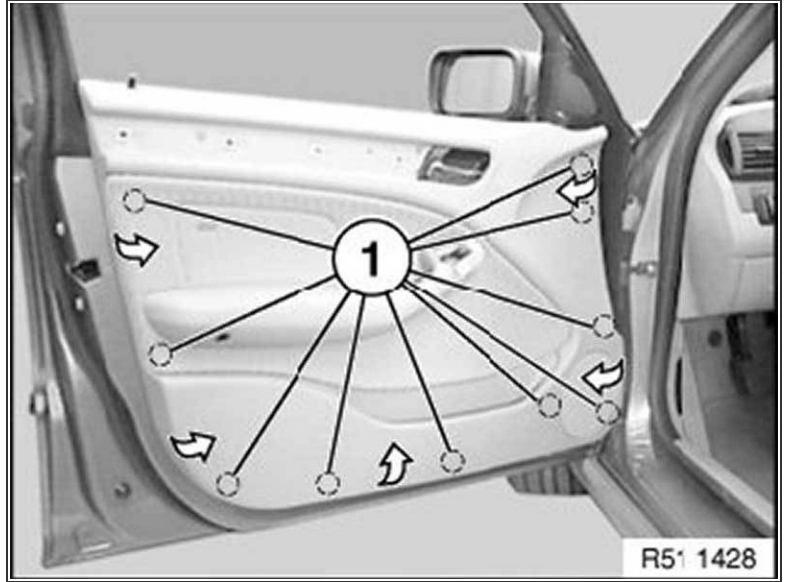
- Using a T20 Torx driver with extension, remove all 5 bolts.

Step 4 — Remove mirror control



- If you're working on the driver side door, remove the mirror control module. Disconnect it from its wiring plug.

Step 5 — Pop door card clips



- Using a trim tool or similar, begin at the bottom of the door card and pop the card away from the door frame.
 - After you've released the bottom clips, work your way around.
- i** You will need to lift the door card from the door frame in order to fully release it. Be careful!

Step 6



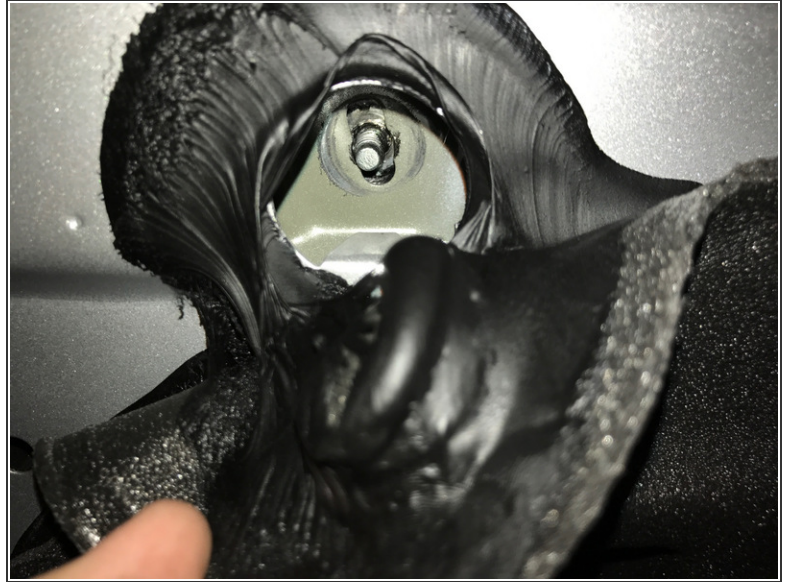
- Disconnect the following from the door panel:
 - Unlocking cable
 - Speaker cable(s)
- Set the door panel aside.

Step 7 — Door panel removed!




- The door panel is now removed.
- You will see the airbag module, vapor barrier, and other components.

Step 8 — Inspect the post



- Very gently, peel back the vapor barrier to expose the retaining bolt.
- Roll the window up.

 The tar-like substance used to seal the vapor barrier to the door frame **WILL** release itself to a gentle pull, but it is **EXTREMELY** sticky, and too much pulling will tear your barrier. Slow and steady is the name of the game!

- Inspect the bolt. It is probably missing a nut!

Step 9 — Inspect the other bolt



- While you're in here, inspect and tighten the bottom bolt.

Step 10 — Find and replace!



- Look in the bottom of your door and locate the nut that fell off that top bolt.
- Replace the nut onto the upper bolt and tighten.
- ⓘ In a pinch, you can use a little bit of that tarry substance to temporarily paste the nut to your fingertip in order to screw it on to the bolt.

Step 11 — Done



- Ta da! Now closing the door sounds great!

To reassemble your door, follow these instructions in reverse order.

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